



King County

# AIMs High: Supporting Decision Making

## Data Stories

There were over 40 people throughout King County who contributed data and analysis to AIMs High. This is a small sample of the many interesting Annual Indicators and Measures (AIMs) included in it.



### Health & Human Potential

- The rate of survival from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest in King County has been consistently rising, and reached 52 percent in 2011. The significance of this survival rate can be appreciated when compared to rates in other major cities in the United States; New York (5 percent), Chicago (3 percent), and Detroit (0 percent).
- Public Health created a retail food index and mapped the results, finding that areas in South King County and along the 1-5 corridor had higher proportions of fast food restaurants to grocery stores and produce vendors.
- The proportion of King County adults without health insurance (16 percent in the latest period) is lower than that in Washington State and the nation, but some race/ethnic groups are much less likely to be insured than others—more Hispanic and African American adults are uninsured than the average in King County.
- According to 2011 data, of all persons who were placed in permanent housing, only 126 or 2.3 percent had returned to the homeless service system within 15 months of their initial placement.



### Justice & Safety

- King County's Building Code Enforcement Grade has improved from a rating of 4 in 2007 to a 3 in 2010 (most recently), meaning that the County is doing a better job of enforcing codes that keep citizens safe.
- Proactive law enforcement calls for the unincorporated areas of King County have decreased since 2009.



### Economic Growth & Built Environment

- King County's procurement reform effort has shown measurable success in increasing contracts for small businesses and those owned by minorities.
- In 2010 and 2011, both arterial and local access roadway pavement conditions fell below the county's standard as the result of inadequate resources.
- Agricultural permitting time has changed from an average of 43 calendar days in 2011 to 35 calendar days in 2012.
- Rural residents do not report that they have opportunities to provide input into King County decisions. About half resident survey respondents indicated that they did not know or were neutral about these issues. Slightly more respondents indicate that they disagree that they can provide input than those that report agreeing that they can provide input into King County decisions.



### Environmental Sustainability

- King County has reduced the annual volume of untreated wastewater discharged to waterways significantly, from 2.3 billion gallons in the early 1980s to less than 800 million gallons in 2011.
- King County Metro Transit uses a large quantity of fuel in order to operate a regional system. Burning this fuel results in significant Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. GHG emissions from bus diesel usage account for more than half of all energy related GHG emissions from King County government operations, and increased by approximately 5 percent between 2007 and 2011.

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However, transit helps reduce community level GHG emissions by replacing private vehicle trips, reducing traffic congestion and supporting efficient land use and community design. King County transit estimates that King County transit service annually reduces community level emissions by more than twice the emissions footprint of the transit vehicle fleet—resulting in a net beneficial impact that results in fewer community level GHG emissions.

- Over 1,600 farmers have worked with the King Conservation District to develop farm management plans covering over 43,000 acres. King County provides technical assistance to farmers to help farmers implement the plans and improve practices to protect water quality, fish, and other natural resources.



## Quality Workforce

- Approximately half of the county workforce reports using data to learn and improve, either as a work group or as an individual.



## Service Excellence

- There is not a significant difference in satisfaction with King County services between different residents of different ethnicities or income levels.



## Financial Stewardship

- Setting aside fund balance for known expenditures and to manage risk is one of the tools available for long term financial planning and to absorb economic shocks. Of the 58 operating funds reported in the proposed budget that have implemented the new reserve guidelines, 74 percent will be appropriately reserved or over reserved in 2013.
- Capital projects over \$1.0 million are baselined, meaning a specific plan is established at project inception that takes into account budget, schedule and scope. The number of projects that have been baselined has increased in each of the last three quarters. Project status is updated and tracked regularly. If a project is reported as all green, then it is on scope, on schedule, and within budget. Fifty-three percent of capital projects had green status in the second quarter of 2012



## Public Engagement

- In the King County Resident Survey, a majority of County residents state they do not know a great deal about County services. This is not uncommon for a regional government. However, King County wants to improve public awareness of County services. (Forty three percent of survey respondents are familiar with at least half of King County services.)